

The Washington ONE: A *new assessment*

In a partnership with Washington State University, a new assessment, the Washington ONE, has been developed. This assessment will measure your risk to commit new crimes and your need areas. Needs are things that contribute to your risk to commit new crimes. For example, if you have a high need in substance abuse you may help reduce this risk by completing substance abuse treatment.

This assessment has static factors (things that do not change) such as information from your previous criminal convictions. It also has dynamic factors (things that can change) which means your behavior, accomplishments, and level of compliance can increase or decrease your risk level over time. Reassessments allow us to measure these changes and use the information to help guide individual and agency case management decisions.



The Washington ONE Norming Period

For more information,
please contact your case manager



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What is the Norming Period?

Moving to a new, dynamic tool which includes periodic reassessment is a substantial undertaking, therefore, a stabilization phase known as a Norming Period will be necessary. The Norming Period is a period of not less than 2 years during which assessment data will be monitored and tracked in order to determine the effects of the new tool and how it is performing over time.



What should I expect during the Norming Period?

In the next few months, you will be meeting with your case manager to complete the Washington ONE assessment which will establish your Contact Risk Level Classification (RLC). You will retain this risk level for the next 24 months unless you are convicted of a new crime. During this time (the Norming Period) the Department of Corrections (DOC) will continue to study how to best support you, the agency, and the community in reducing your risk to commit new crimes.

Will my Risk Level Classification (RLC) change?

To accommodate the Norming Period, DOC is distinguishing between the reassessment RLC, which DOC will measure for research purposes and what is called a "Contact RLC," which will continue to be used for the same purposes an RLC is used today such as your priority for programs, your release plan, or minimum contact standards in the community.

Once your case manager (Community Corrections Officer or Classification Counselor) completes your initial Washington ONE assessment, your RLC *may* change and will be shown as the "Contact RLC." While reassessments will be conducted by your case manager during the Norming Period, your Contact RLC will not change again during that time unless there is a new, verified criminal conviction.

The reassessment RLC may change but will not affect these things for now and will be looked at by outside researcher partners to help DOC ensure they are making sound and evidence based decisions as the Norming Period ends.



What else do I need to know?

- Your case manager will conduct a reassessment if you change facilities, release from prison or work release, if there is a new conviction, and/or every six months.
- Your Washington ONE assessment includes information from several sources; your criminal history, Department of Corrections records including programming and infractions, and an interview with you.

What is my role?

It is important for you to understand that you play a crucial role during the Norming Period. Because a lot of work will be going on behind the scenes, it is important for you to fully participate in the Washington ONE assessment, the High Risk Situation interview, your collaborative case plan, and reassessments.

By working collaboratively with your case manager, you will be able to help develop your goals and objectives (specific action steps you take to accomplish your goal) and discuss your progress in addressing your risk and needs over time.

You have the ability to affect the success of your supervision. Things that will increase your level of success are a positive attitude, motivation for positive change, and skills to help you stay successful.